

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4548

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 7463

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, EEWT, PL (PIETOWSKI, JERZY)

SUBJECT: MFA RAISES RESTRICTIVE VISA NOTATION IN ANIMEX
DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S PASSPORT

REF: STATE 235206, WARSAW 6811, WARSAW 6493, STATE 237659

1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR STANISLAW PAWLISZEWSKI OF DEPARTMENT III OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTED THE EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR TO MEET WITH HIM OCTOBER 14. IN A RELAXED AND LOW-KEY MANNER, PAWLISZEWSKI EXPLAINED THAT HIS MINISTRY HAD BEEN ASKED BY HIGHER AUTHORITY WHY ANIMEX DIRECTOR-GENERAL JERZY PIETOWEKI'S B-1 VISA, ISSUED BY THE EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1976, HAD BEEN ANNOTATED, "NO DEVIATION OR EXTENSION OF STAY WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE INS DIRECTOR." PAWLISZEWSKI STATED THAT PIETOWSKI REFUSED TO USE THE VISA AND CANCELLED HIS TRIP. THE MFA, PAWLISZEWSKI CONTINUED, COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE EMBASSY HAD RESTRICTED PIETOWSKI'S ABILITY TO TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES, IN THE LIGHT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S EMPHASIS ON THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT PROVISIONS ABOUT THE FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE, AS WELL AS OUR CONTINUED REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT EASIER VISA PROCEDURES FOR BUSINESSMEN. THE RESTRICTION WAS ADDITIONALLY EMBARRASSING BECAUSE ANIMEX FOR YEARS HAS BEEN PROBABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT SINGLE BUSINESS AGENCY IN US-POLISH BILATERAL TRADE. (COMMENT: THIS TRADE TOTALS SOME \$120 MILLION ANNUALLY. END COMMENT) THE EMBASSY OFFICER REPLIED THAT THE NOTATION DID NOT RESTRICT PIETOWSKI'S
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ABILITY TO TRAVEL, BUT RATHER IMPOSED A REQUIREMENT OF

NOTIFICATION. HE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER.

2. COMMENT: THE DEPARTMENT'S OM OF MAY 17 FORWARDED DEROGATORY INFORMATION ABOUT PIETOWSKI, ORIGINATING IN 1963 AND REPORTING ACITIVITIES GOING BACK TO 1957. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT HE HAS ENGAGED IN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS. IT IS HARD FOR US TO SEE HOW THE NATIONAL INTEREST IS SERVED BY ANNOTATING MR. PIETOWSKI'S PASSPORT UNLESS HE IS TO BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE. IN ANNOTATING HIS PASSPORT, WE HAVE GIVEN THE POLES AN EXCUSE TO CLAIM THAT WE PREACH, BUT DO NOT PRACTICE, FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES AND INDIVIDUALS. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THEY WILL MAKE USE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY WE HAND THEM TO REPEAT THIS CLAIM. END COMMENT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. (A) WE RECOMMEND THAT THE ANNOTATION PROCEDURE REQUIREMENT BE ELIMINATED. SHOULD THIS PROVE IMPOSSIBLE, WE PROPOSE THAT THE ANNOTATION PLACED ON A SLIP OF PAPER INSERTED IN THE PASSPORT AND/OR BE ENCODED BENEATH THE VISA.

(B) WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ANSWER WE SHOULD MAKE TO PAWLISZEWSKI'S REPRESENTATION.
DAVIES

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